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IN A MOUNTAIN FIRE.

A Thrilling Episode of California Life.

BY ADA E. FERRIS.

a moment to loose. She rattled the

and papa and mamma haven't come

Louise looked desperately around for an axe to force the door, She

could see clearly—it was too light, in-deed, with all that ruddy glow from the smoke-clouds above. The great

dog was watching her suspiciously.
"New don't be angry, boy," she coaxed;
a little hervously. "We've got to
open the door, you know, to get the

babies out, or we shall all burn up to-

Bose barked and again flung his

whole weight against the flimsy door

just as Louise found a light hatchet.

She attacked the door furiously. A

strong man would have made short

work of it, but the girl was neither

strong nor skilful, and though it shiv-

ered and splintered it held fast for

what seemed a terribly long time. At

last as she and Bose together threw

themselves against it, it crashed in, and

the dog bounded across the room to

where a little girl about six years old

was trying to hush the screams of a

The shanty consisted of but one.

room, with neither floor nor ceiling,

and the furniture was of the rudest

with the home-made stools and bed-

stead. Louise gave one glance at a

fine, inlaid stand and a handsome fam-

ily Bible, but with that terrible half-

mile of overarched wood road to trav-

erse, it was impossible to think of

saving anything but the children, and

She caught up the chubby youngster.

'Come," she said cheerily, 'let's go

But the child screamed and fought

her vigorously. While she strove to

soothe him, the little girl ran to the

door, but one look brought her back

description. A few relics of better days "back east" contrasted oddly

brother of three.

and meet mother."

yet. Ain't it time?"

A mountain fire at night-that was [him that Louise was a friend, and he the sight which Louise Litham, a visi- ran before her barking loudly and tor from the prairie states to her flung himself against the shanty door. Louise sprang from her panting uncle's home in California, was regard-

ing with awe and admiration.

"Let's ride up and take a nearer view," said her cousin Phik. "You will never see anything like this in canyon was all ablaze. There wasn't Illinois—nor very often here, for that matter. There isn't a bit of danger. Prince goes easy and isn't skittish and we'll just go up on one of the foothills where we can ree it all. Get your thickest cloak, though, 'for it's chilly, and you don't want to freeze on one side while you roast on the

Nothing loath, | Louise ran for her wraps, and very soon they were galloping toward the blazing mountains. How light it was! "It is like my pic-ture of 'The Last Days of Pompeii,'" Louise panted, "only this isn't doing

A wagon came clattering toward them, and Phil drew up suddenly as he recognized the lady who drove. "Good evening, Mrs. Hastings! Why, you are not burned out, sarely?"
Mrs. Hastings laughed hysterically.

The house was all right when I left, but I don't suppose I shall ever see it again. The sparks were falling in showers, then. Mr. Hastings and his brother insisted on my coming out with the coits before the road was blocked by the fire. They said they could go over the eastern ridge by the cattle-trail and out by Wilson's road, if. they were delayed too long. Our pretty home-

She choked, but almost instantly recovered herself, and asking hurriedly, "Is your mother at home? I think I'll drop in or her until the matter is settled," she drove on.

"Por Mrs. Hastings!" Louise

A fire starting in one of these gulches or canyons rushes up it as flames rush up a chimney, but the steep rock walls on either side often contina it. Phough the cleft just westward of the Hastings place roared like a fiery furnace, their ravine was still dark and unharmed. Phil looked up it longingly, but dared not take his cousin in, for the house was some half mile up the canyon, the road thickets, and if the fire once started there it would be impossible to get back. Yet he was aching to get back, Yet he was aching to go to

tached knol see it all fro

u, uo you?" Ecuise dia mmd, but would not say so, knowing how much the Hastingses. needed help so a moment later she was alone on the stony knob. Almost in the next moment, it seemed, she found herself listening to the distant barking of a dog. Louise loved dogs, and recognized this, at once as the voice of a large one, frightened, angry and appealing. It was up the canyon-eastward of the Hastings ravine. She had been up that trail once with Phil

There she had seen a small, rough shanty, and two little toddlers playing with a great dog, half-hound, halfbulldog, which Phil informed her was the terror of the neighbors and the devoted slave and grardian of the children. Was he now afraid of the fire? He had reason. If it swept up Hastings' canyon it could hardly fail to take Wilson's also. .

Then Louise felt her blood run chilly. Only that morning she had seen-Wilson and his invalid wife drive by on their way to town, 12 miles away. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, but not the children! Mina had told her that when the Wilsons went to town they leit the children locked up in the house. No wonder poor Bose was barking frantically! He scented dauger in the air, and his belove! little ones were unable to escape!

"Phil! Phil!" Louise screamed, involuntarily, but Phil was far beyond hearing, and already there was a dull smolder of tire in the dead leaves beside the road, where a spark had fallen.

She sprang fron her horse and crashed it out, but that could postpone the inevitable for but a moment or two; flames were showing over the western ridge, and other smoldering fires were visible. She could not reach Phil-" ere wa. no time to ride for help—yet clearer than ever she heard the frantic barking. Oh, the poor children, locked up in that little shanty with its roof of redwood shakes, dry as tinder!

"Prince, we've got to try it!" Louise sobbed, springing back into the saddle and turning him to the eastward. "Phil said 'Don't go nearer,' but we can't stay here and let those babies burn alive. I know they are shricking for help, and nobody to hear but poor, faithful, helpless Bose. Now keep cool, Prince! We simply must smash that door in and get the children back here before this canyon is a furnace, and that may be in less than ten minutes. Quick, Prince, quick! It's a race for life, now. Fly, boy,

Prince snorted as if be understood, and plunged down a steep cattle path to the narrow trail that wound up the canyon. Half a mile of this cave-like gloom, the crooked trail so narrow that her outstretched arms might touch the branches on either side, and now, indeed, Louise felt that she had rushed into the jaws of death. A few moments' delay would make return impossible, and she knew no other way

Now the canyon widened. She was under the firelit sky again, with Bose bounding toward her, barking imploringly. "Yes, Bose, yes, good doggie, we'll save the babies, never fear," she called, breathlessly, extenling her I and toward him, for she understood

are hearly seared to death with all this heat and rushing and rearing and track'ing round you. But you are safe herb. Rocks and water ban't burn, nor this green stuff, either. Oh; you little scamp!"

She was just in time to catch Johnny

as he broke away from Gracie. This time she tore a strip from his apron, tied the restless ankles together; and set him down beside the pool; screaming, but unable to make more trou-

"There, now! Don't cry, Gracie; I didn't hurt him, and we are safe here. Step close under the tree. Look at Bose lying in the pool. He Lnows how to make himself comfortable:"

The canyoli was 'now a sea of fire. Great flames seemed to reach and rough door fiercely.

A frightened little face showed itself at the window. "Please'm, we can't open the door. We're locked in, eclipse the pale stars overhead. The heat was intense, and the showers of sparks hissed in the water and scorched the ferns. Louise could see the thick foliage of the green bay shrivelling in the hot wind.

"But rocks and water can't burn; she repeated, desperately. "And this heat can't last long."

She dipped Gracie's wrap and her own into the pool, but Johnny held his so tightly and screamed so loud that she had to let that go.

A frightened rabbit flashed past them up the canyon, and a snake glided away among the rocks. Louise wondered if they would escape. She dashed water over Prince's saddle and back, over herself and the children. The heat was terrible. It seemed impossible to live except by lying flat. She tried to force Prince down, but he was too terrified to understand or obey, and she had to drop down her-

The flames seemed to shoot up both sides of the canyon now, netting a fiery bower against the sky. The rain of sparks made little Gracie, looking into the mirror of the pool, scream in terror. "The water's afire, too!" she tried:

Louise tried to reassure her, but she found herself glaucing up apprehensively at the shrivelling leaves of the bay tree. They would soon cease to be any protection. "Lie flat, Gracie," she said, and once more dashed water over the children and horse. Then she dropped, panting and exhausted, on the verge of the pool, closing her eyes to the foe she could no longer

But scarcely a minute passed before Gracie exclaimed, 'The fire's going out, and our house isn't burned. It's just going to, though! Louise sat up. The dry grass and

leaves had burned out, the canyon was comparatively dark, and the shanty was but just smoldering into a blaze. The wet blankets and rugs had no THE YAQUIS A NOBLE RACE

Most Remarkable Tribe of Aboriginals Known to History:

MEXICAN TROOPS HAVE THEM AT BAY.

attitude of the tury or before, who founded their

mostremarkable tribe of aborig-inals known 18 history: The Yaquis differ materially from the numerous other tribes inhabiting this section of the globe, says a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat: While thoroughly partaking of the ferocious nature of the Apaches of the American frontier; and entertaining quite as pronounced a hatred for all people of more civilized tastes, they are characterized by a very distinct predilection for intelligent forms of government. But that any restrictions or obligations should be placed upon them by an alien people, such as they have ever been disposed to regard all mankind not of their tribe, they are disposed to consider as unwarranted interference with their hereditary customs, and hence intolerable. The Yaquis have been a constant source of dread to the Mexicans ever since the first attempt at civilizing the northwestern section of the republic, to which movement the former have been most strenuously opposed. Like other North American tribes, they hold that

fathers, and every foot of land that has from time to time been wrenched from them has ultimately been paid for by the life's blood of the invaders. During past centuries the Yaquis have been almost incessantly at war with the Spania als and their Mexican descendants, and by degrees their once powerful tribe has been reduced until at the present day it numbers less than 15,000 members. Of their former broad domain all the possessions that now remain to the Yaquis are a few leagues of land at

the territory they inhabit is theirs by right of inheritance from their fore-

The talk if the papers about surrounding them and statting them is rot, for it cannot be done at this season of the year. At this time down there everything is green and verdure is at its best. These Indians live/on cactus, on a kind of brown sugar and on parched corn and of this they can find an unlimited amount at this time; of the year. It is just as sensible to put a man in a well and talk of killing him by thirst as to talk of starving

specimens of physical manhood as are kingdom on the site of Tula, about to be found on the continent. They in the mountain fifty miles north of the City of Mexico. are as numerous as the Yaquis, and it districts of They claim by tradition an earlier is the custom of these Indians to kill North western origin than the Aztecs, who built all their old men and women long be-Mexico to what cities and possessed a civilization fore they would die a natural death, is perhaps the which was at its height in the time of and they prevent the marriage of the first expedition of Cortez. The either a man or a woman of the tribe



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cries, and even unclasped one small haud. "l'll-be-good," she gasped, obediently. "Don't let me be burned But the speiled baby only shricked

and kicked. His little sister, trembli g like a leaf, made a piteous appeal. "Please don't mind him. He don't know any better, he's so little. O Johnny! please be stil, please! I'll give you my dollie, anything-but if you don't keep still-O Johnny, do listen to sisterwe shall be burned up! hitis

But Johnny was deaf to argument, and Louise had to carry him out, and exert all her strength to lift him on the horse. "Hold on tight," she said; but before she could lift Gracie also, the perverse little fellow rolled shricking to the ground. Louise had to spring and catch the bridle or Prince auld have been off.

of his sister's frantic appeals, for he had never been required to obey her had never been required to obey her or anybody else. Gracie ran after him, sobbing and tugging frantically to get him out. Louise had to the Prince before she dared follow, sick at heart with fear. The sooiled baby's wilfulness might cost all their lives.

By main force she dragged him from his retreat, enveloped him in blankets and here him out but on the door-

and bore him out, but on the doorstep she paused. The breeze up the cauyon, till now so cool and f esh, had suddenly become warm and smoky. The falling sparks had done their work, fires were already smoldering lower down the canyon. A minute more might see it ablaze. It would be madness to attempt that road now. She set Johnny down and looked

around with desperate coolness.

A barrel of water stood under the nearest free. Into this Louise hastily planged bedding-and-pieces of carpet, then, scrambling on an old box, with the help of the broom she spread them as well as possible over the flim-

Suddenly she sprang down. "The pool below the falls under the big bay tree! We may be safe there, and there isn't a moment to lose. Come, Johnny, we're going to the falls.

Once more she jerked the child from under the bed and carried him out. Now the air was close, and the canyon walls echoed to the crackling of the flames. Fortunately it was not far to the little poo!, for it took all the girl's strength to lead the terrified horse and

the struggling boy.

"Black man under falls bogy man!" Johnny screamed, pulling back with all his might, and Gracie added, rembling, "Mamma says there is a black man there that eats little children; but you won't let him eat us

will you?'.
"If there ever was a black man there," said Louise, with composure, "of course he's not there now—he's

run away from the fire?' The "falls" were a mere dribble of water down an almost perpendicular rock; the pool was not over three feet deep, and green slime lay along its edges, but it was water, and it lay in sides, while over it spread the green luxuriance of a great bay tree. Louise drew a long breath of thankfulness when she reached the stream.

a moment. Now, Prince, come and be journey. The magistrate had to pay the dog's tone. One sniff assured | tied to this tree, Poor old horsie, you | for the fizzle.

"And their bedding isn't all burned up, though I wouldn't give much for the things on the roof, and I don't think I shall wear this cloak to church again. I wish I was safe at home in bed; but thank God the children are There came a patter of small feet

and a shrill, wrathful voice. Johnny had succeeded in freeing himself, and returned in great indignation. "I'll tell my mamma on you," he declared, loudly. "You b'oke door in, and you dwag me off and you tie me up in de fire. I'll tell my mamma!" "You're welcome," Louise said,

dryly. "You b'oke windows and burnhouse. I'll tell my mamma," Johnny

reiterated angrily.
Very cautiously Louise removed the blinding cost from her hors 's head. She patted mid soothed him, and was about to climb wearily into the saddle Master Johnny scarried back into when there came a flare of torches and the house and under the bed in spite lanterns over the western ridge. She when there came a flare of torches and heard a woman sobbing wildly and declaring she must and would go on

> gone home? I can't face them if she isn't there."

"Oh, Phil!" the girl called, "I'm here all right. Is that Mrs. Wilson crying? Tell her the children are all right and the house is standing. Bose Down, sir!s Don't you know you. friends?" for the dog had bristled and growled angrily at Phil's headlong

"Why in the world didn't, you stay where I left you? Hastings thought sure you bal tried to follow me and bean caught in the fire. Next time I

won't bring you out." "You needn't. I never want to see a mountain fire again. All the same, I'm glad I came this time. You are, too, aren't you, Bose? You didn't hear him calling for help, did you, Phil? His barking brought me, and if Johnny had been half as sensible as his dog I could have had the children out before the fire caught us. Don't be angry, Phil. I couldn't stay there and let them burn up without trying to save them."

"Who's said anything angry? Only I didn't know you set up for a heroine."
"It wasn't heroic," Louise auswered, simply. "It was the only

But somebow she never could make the Wilsons agree with her, or Phil, either. - Youth's Companion.

Emperor Upset the Plans.

Kaiser Wilhelm's restlessness has brought about the retirement in disgrace of the chief magistrate of the Metz district. When the Kaiser visited Metz lately a programme was arranged according to which he was to be entertained at lunch at a certain honr and was then to make a triumphal progress through a number of villages. where school children and societies of a hollow, with rock walls on three all kinds were to be arrayed on either side to greet him. The Kaiser insisted on getting up from lunch an hour before the appointed time, which miset the arrangements, so that he "Here, Gracie, hold this youngster, found the streets deserted on his



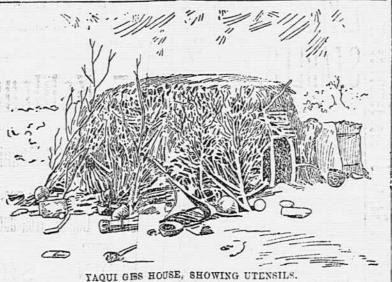
theirs by right of their exclusive The conflict this time will be to the ability to penetrate and when neces- death. In their ten years' war the sary to inhabit it. This is the war Yaquis were still using almost wholly home of the Yaquis. Here in the con- their primitive weapons. To-day they flicts of late years they have proved are well armed. invincible, unconquerable. It is a The Yaquis are fine people, and

or Huaqui, is one of the chief river ments and divisions.

a policy of extermination against these formed. The result is they have a tribe of magnificent specimens of

The present uprising is the sixth in | manhood and womanhood. The Mexi-

their history. The Indians revolted can Government will have its hands against Spain in 1735. The Hidalges full with the Yaquis alone, but if the were worsted in battle, but they made up for their failure in arms by their artful duplicity. The Yaquis revolted again in 1825, and again in 1832, against Mexico, when, armed with bows, battle axes and spears, and led by their celebrated chieftain, Banderas, they made it lively for the Government troops, but were finally overcome. They made another attempt in 1841, and defended their mountain fastnesses with Spartan valor, and for years held the Government at bay. Sierra Madres, lies a territory that is Order was restored by a compromise.

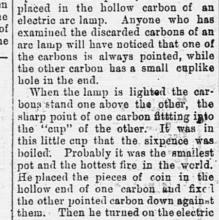


mines, cotton weaving, cha potter- front the family squatted, cooked and ies, cattle ranches and oth branches lived. Mere justice demands that I finally boiled. of pastoral industry. T valley of the liness about their homes, persons and present disturbances, anding to surroundings, and the high opinion American scientists and clorers embraces about 12,000 squamiles. It intelligence, great bravery and inis one of the most mounnous parts trinsic worth still remains unchanged. They are not savages.

Mexican Government has aunounced who is in any way imperfect or de-

country of rugged mountain steeps, rather deserve encouragement than of deep, furnacelike defiles and deso annihilation, writes an American oflate, sweltering mesa lands-a coun-ficer who recently visited their country inaccessible, intolerable to any try. They are the remnants of a thing human save only the Yaquis, brave and partly civilized people Such is the stronghold in which this whom the Spaniards found in Mexico. race of fighters is intrenched to-day. They have never been conquered, and The Yaquis derive their name from have never forgiven their Spanish their peculiar habit of loud talking enemies nor their descendants. Their their verbal designation Yaqui mean military organization is almost pering, "He who shouts." The Yaqui fect, and consists of companies, regi-

England recently boiled a sixpence and watched it dissolve and pass f Mexico, being about 400 miles i The wife of our chief blushed with gth, and is formed of severt pleasure as one of our number hung away in the form of vapor, just as anyams, which rise close to the Ame: about her neck a string of blue beads boundary in the Sierra Madi as a parting gift. She was truly While he was doing it he declared ntains. The Yaqui has its outle worthy of our admiration. So was that any substance on earth might be e Gulf of California, about twenty the grin on the face of her youngster five miles southeast of Guaymas, the as he began to realize what sweetness principal Mexican seaport of the Gul | was concealed in a lump of maple The State of Sonora has an areaf sugar which we gave him. Their about 71,000 square miles, or near huts were our homes, the doors of 25,000 miles more than New Yor, which would always have been open and a population of about 155,00 to us had there been any. At the The assessed value of the property back end of each were two tiers of about \$7,500,000. It consists bunks for sleeping purposes; in the



A YAQUI MAIDEN WITH PAINTED FACE,

Mayos join them it will be a long

How to Boll Money.

A well-known chemical expert in

one might do with a pot of water.

boiled and made to become vapor, if

only you had great heat mough to do

In boiling the sixpence it was cut

up into small pieces, which were

it, not excepting granite rock.

drawn out contest.

He had arranged the apparatus in front of a magic lantern, so that the whole thing could be seen on a large white screen. The carbons, the coin. and in fact everything could be viewed plainly. Of course, the electric current passing between the carbons made them very hot, and the cup soon became filled with a white heat. It was wonderful to see how quickly the silver melted and simmered, and

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